

Minutes
Civic Committee Meeting
March 9, 2010

Present

Committee Members: Sue Rothrock, Ann Schmittinger, Dale Brumbaugh, Rodney Jester, Greg Morrison. Guest: Tom Wheeler Town Secretary: Elaine Hickey

Chair Sue Rothrock called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM

Field Theater Lighting

Tom Wheeler, Chair of the Shakespeare Gild presented a proposal for enhancing the lighting at the Field Theater. The theater has 12 volts of landscape lighting. The Shakespeare Gild would like a more intense lighting. Currently there are three transformers with 900 watts. They would like to add one more transformer, move the lights around a little for staging, and add the needed receptacles. The Shakespeare Gild has allocated \$750.00 for the job. Gild member, David Hastings is the electrician who did the previous work and would also do this work. The Gild seeks permission from the Town's Civic Committee to proceed with this lighting plan. The committee agreed that the work that has been done by David so far has been great. They voted and approved the installation of the new transformer and lighting so that it would be in place for the June Shakespeare production.

Civic Committee Nominees for March Election

Nominees for the 2010-2011 FY Civic Committee are: Tom Wheeler, Ed Rohrbach, Liz Resko, and Greg Morrison. The Town Assembly will be voting for two new members at the March 22 Town Meeting. Sue will not be retiring from the committee until after the election. To replace Sue, the committee does not necessarily have to choose the person who received the third most votes in the election. A different person can be nominated and voted on at the June Town Meeting.

Roads

Because of bad weather the following planned roadwork did not get done: intersection of Green Ln. & Walnut Ln.; Orchard near the borderline; part of Millers Rd.; and pipes in Miller Ln. This will all be moved to the 2010-2011 budget and will cost \$10, 870. This year's budget just paid \$10,970 for snow removal and \$2,100 for tree damage cleanup due to the February snow storms.

The tree at Miller & Marsh that was leaning badly, because it was being pushed by a dead tree, was taken down by the Forest Committee.

The reimbursement we received from the Community Transportation Funds to cover the drain work around the Gild Hall was put into the Town Budget instead of the MSA fund, from which the money was original taken. Sue would like to ask the Town if that money could be put into the MSA fund to cover the road work that needs to be done. There is \$4,021.38 left in the Civic budget. Rodney asked if there is anything that could be done right now to use up that remaining budget money. Sue said the survey at the Sherwood Green, which was interrupted by the snow storms, could be completed and the posts put in. Rick Rothrock will also be placing the stainless steel marker in the rock that is the center point of the Field Theater.

1911 Orleans Road

Denis O'Regan has asked Civic to remediate the road in front of his leasehold at 1911 Orleans Road to prevent rainwater runoff from entering that property. Downing Construction had looked at the situation and felt there was not a problem there that could be solved by doing work on the road. Rodney Jester met with a second contractor, Wayne Knotts. Knotts made the following proposal to handle any rain runoff that may come from the road: put in an asphalt curb in front of 1911 Orleans Rd. by cutting the road away, remove the existing asphalt, excavating down 10 inches for an area 30" wide and 75' long, set the forms in concrete and cut the expansion joints. This would cost \$4,400.

Greg Morrison raised the question as to why we would spend \$4,400 on work that would not prevent the majority of the rain runoff from going onto the leasehold in question. The majority of the runoff is coming from the adjacent leasehold. This is a matter between the two leaseholders. It is an unfortunate situation of one leasehold sitting higher than the other.

Sue suggested the committee get one more estimate from a contractor who has not had former experience with Arden roads. The first estimate was from Downing who actually looked at the situation when it was raining. He felt that he could put in a curb but it would not address the problem of all the water that is coming from the adjacent leasehold. The committee feels that perhaps the issue needs to be taken to the Town Assembly for guidance on how to resolve

the issue. The committee will get a third contractor to look at the problem and then a letter can be sent to Denis O'Regan explaining the committee's decision.

2122 The Highway

Carol Page Gibbons at 2122 The Highway has water pouring down her sidewalk when it rains. The problem started after she changed the lay of the sidewalk so that she would not have to step over a berm at the right-of-way to get to her sidewalk.

Carol DiGiovanni's FOIA request

Carol DiGiovanni requested information on how Arden funds, budgeted for roads, has been spent for the past two fiscal years. She is concerned about the leaf accumulation on Orleans Rd. Town Chair Steven Threefoot sent her the information she requested. The Town's policy pertaining to "Leaves" is as follows: "Leaseholders and/or residents may not dump leaves from the leasehold onto the right-of-way, roads, woods, or Village paths adjacent to the leasehold. Violations may subject a leaseholder to payment for the cost of removing leaves from the right-of-way." There is no specific fine associated with this violation other than the cost of removal.

Mowing Contract

The mowing contract with Turf Management has been signed. It is a two-season contract. It is the same price as last year - \$750 for each cut. It runs on average \$1500/month, April – October to maintain the Village and Sherwood Greens; Memorial Garden plus overflow; Stile Green; intersections at Millers & Orleans, Little & Harvey, and Sherwood & Hillside.

Electronic Recycling

The committee set the date for Electronic Recycling to be on Saturday, April 10.

The next meeting will be Sue's last meeting before retiring from the Committee. She will deliver all the Civic files to the Town Office where they will be kept for future reference.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Hickey

Town Secretary